The Generations and Gender Programme
Towards a Sustainable Future
Presentation at the NNFP 2012 Meeting
Where do we come from?
Historical development of the GGP

- 1990’s: Fertility and Family Surveys coordinated by UNECE
- 2000: Initiative by UNECE to develop the Generations and Gender Programme
- 2004: Launch of first survey
- 2006: GGP ‘emerging Research Infrastructure’ ESFRI report
- 2008: UN conference on ‘How Generations and Gender Shape Demographic Change’ (Geneva)
- 2008: Grant by EC DG-Research for a ‘Design Study for Research Infrastructures’
- 2011: First GGP User Conference (Budapest)
Where do we stand?
Data Collection

- 19 countries have collected at least one wave of data (15 harmonized data sets available at www.ggp-i.org)
- 10 countries have collected at least two waves, 3 countries three waves
- GGP Contextual database includes more than 80 comparable regional- and country-level indicators for about 60 countries
GGP Dissemination Factsheet

- Strong increase over the last three years, with a doubling of projects, users and articles per year
- 255 registered projects
- 340 registered users
- > 100 articles in peer-reviewed journals and edited books
GGP Policy Impact

- Policy-relevant research projects
  - MULTILINKS (FP7)
  - REPRO (FP7)
  - DEMONET (DG Employment)

- Policy Conferences
  - UN Policy Conference on Generations and Gender

- Consultancies
  - UN (MIPAA+10)
  - EU (DG Employment)
Where are we heading to?
Blueprint GGP 2015

- Blueprint for GGP 2015 is ready by the end of 2012
  - Questionnaire GGP 2015
  - Sampling design
  - Set of fieldwork guidelines
  - Strategic positioning of GGP within European Research Area
Two main issues

- How to secure funding for Programme Coordination and Development?

- How to secure funding for national-level survey taking?
The DG-Research Route

- Inclusion of a data infrastructure on the ESFRI Roadmap that outlines the major research infrastructures of European importance
  - Design Study is a stepping-stone on this route

- Constitution of an European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC)
  - A set of countries that commit themselves for at least five years to ‘run’ the infrastructure
Current experiences

- **ESS**
  - Included on the Roadmap since 2006
  - Received up to 7.5M€ support from EU
  - Will become an ERIC in 2012, with between 12 and 16 members
  - Each ERIC member pays for own data collection, plus a minimum of 20k€ towards coordination

- **SHARE**
  - Included on the Roadmap since 2006
  - Received up to 13M€ support from EU
  - Has become an ERIC in 2011, with 5 members
  - Severe problems in funding 2012 wave in at least 6 countries
How is GGP positioned on the DG-Research Route?

- **ESFRI**
  - In 2009 we became funding as a Design study, which is a kind of stepping stone towards Roadmap status
  - In 2012, GGP has been included in the Dutch National Roadmap
  - The ESFRI Roadmap is currently closed, and will probably be opened for new entrants in two years from now at the earliest
  - The GGP is well-positioned to get entry, as we are the best-developed data-infrastructure initiative apart from SHARE and ESS

- **ERIC**
  - No headway towards an ERIC has at yet been made
  - Not clear whether there would be a sufficient number of countries (= national governments) willing to constitute an ERIC
  - Investments in constituting an ERIC are very high
Next steps

- Organize a conference with stakeholders (EU-DGs, national funding agencies) in November 2012 to raise interest (in collaboration with DG Research, Population Europe)
- More clearly differentiate ourselves from other data infrastructures
- Finalize Blueprint to show that we are as prepared as possible
- Try to get involved in Horizon 2020-tenders at DG-Research as soon as possible (end 2013, early 2014)
- Push for ESFRI membership
- Spread the co-funding message around (in collaboration with others)
- Develop alternatives (Plan B), e.g. smaller, centrally organized survey
Towards a sustainable future

❖ Acquiring recognition as a vital European data infrastructure
  ▪ Inclusion on the Dutch National Roadmap 2012-2015 has been achieved
  ▪ Inclusion on the ESFRI Roadmap is aimed at

❖ Acquiring funds for coordination activities
  ▪ DG Research supported the Design phase during 2009-2012
  ▪ Future funding perspectives for coordination are highly uncertain

❖ Acquiring funds for data collection
  ▪ Countries have raised funds for their own data collections
  ▪ This national fund raising is under severe pressure, in particular in the current harsh economic climate
  ▪ Establishment of an ERIC may secure funding in several core GGP countries
  ▪ Central funding (or co-funding) is best strategy for sustainable development
What is the GGP about?

- GGP provides a social science data infrastructure to answer scientifically and socially relevant questions about key decisions in adult life courses
- Topics
  - Leaving home, union formation and fertility
  - Work-family balance
  - Division of paid and unpaid labour
  - Intergenerational support
  - Retirement
  - Well-being and health
  - Social inequality and poverty
Characteristics of the GGP

- **Broad age-range** (18-79), because we need to understand key decisions about work and family life across the whole adult age range
- **Large-scale** surveys on population challenges (N≈10,000) to allow in-depth analysis
- **Panel design** to allow for better causal analysis and studying processes of adaptation to change
- **Cross-national** to allow for examining the influence of the social context (including the policy context)
- **Theory-driven** questionnaire design
- **Contextual macro-level database** to allow for multi-level analyses
Programme Development

- Design Study funded by DG-Research, running from 2009-2012
- Development of Blueprint for GGP 2015 almost ready
- Revamped questionnaire
- Mixed-mode data collection approach
- Focus on PR activities (monthly newsletter to be launched in May 2012, research briefs series in June 2012)
Members of Consortium Board

- Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NL)
- Erasmus University Rotterdam (NL)
- Utrecht University (NL)
- Institut National d’Études Démographiques (FR)
- Bocconi University (IT)
- Statistics Norway (NO)
- Demographic Research Institute (HU)
- Norwegian Social Research (NO)
- University of Ljubljana (SI)
- University of York (GB)
- Max-Planck Institute for Demographic Research (DE)
- Population Unit of the UN Economic Commission for Europe
Wave 1
- 19 countries (data for 15 countries currently available)

Wave 2
- 10 countries (Bulgaria ready for release; Germany, France, Georgia and The Netherlands to be released in first half of this year)